

State given green light to upgrade train crossings

The State Road Commission has received the green light on a program to upgrade 455 unsafe railroad crossings throughout Utah.

The state may spend up to \$25,000 as its part of the program, according to a Public Service Commission order.

The program is expected to cost \$277,183. Utah will pay 10 percent of the cost, and the rest will come from federal matching funds under the Federal Highway Act.

The Road Commission was authorized to enter into agreements with Union Pacific, Denver & Rio Grande Western and Western Pacific railroads to arrange for the installa-

tion of reflectorized cross bucks at certain crossings.

State workers themselves will put in advance warning signs and pavement markings at the crossings, and will install cross bucks and make other improvements at crossings of Salt Lake Garfield & Western, Tooele Valley and Heber Creeper railroads to bring them up to required safety standards.

"The railroads were willing to put their part in, and we thought we needed to get this done," said Public Service Commission Secretary Ronald Casper.

The order will become final unless protest is filed with the commission within 20 days.

